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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Ad Hoc Working Group on Expansion
of Trading Opportunities for
Developing Countries
Second session
Geneva, 4 October 1993
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Provisional agenda and annotations to the provisional agenda

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

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II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Election of officers

In accordance with the decision taken by the Trade and Development Board at the first part of its thirty-ninth session, the officers elected at the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Expansion of Trading Opportunities for Developing Countries are to remain in office for the duration of the life of the Ad Hoc Working Group. The elected officers are:

Chairman:	Mrs. Magda Shanin	(Egypt)
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. Andreas Gambitsis	(Greece)
	Mr. Akmal Hassain	(Bangladesh)
	Mr. V. Kouvshinov	(Russian Federation)
	Mr. Carlos Sinencio	(Mexico)
	Mr. Herbert Dzvimbo	(Zimbabwe)
Rapporteur:	Mr. Dietmar-Gert Lackner	(Austria)

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work:

As provided for in the calendar of meetings, the Working Group will have available five working days from 4 to 8 October 1993. Throughout this session interpretation facilities will be available. At the first meeting, on 4 October 1993, an opening statement will be made by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD or his representative. The rest of the time of the Working Group will be primarily devoted to item 3 of the agenda.

Item 3: Consideration of issues arising from the work programme of the Ad Hoc Working Group:

(a) Country presentations of national experience (export capabilities, market opportunities, export promotion and marketing)

As of 11 August 1993, presentations have been received from the following countries: Republic of Benin (TD/B/WG.4/Misc.7); Bolivia (TD/B/WG.4/Misc.2); Brazil (TD/B/WG.4/Misc.10); Colombia (TD/B/WG.4/Misc.8); Ecuador (TD/B/WG.4/Misc.5); Federal Republic of Germany (TD/B/WG.4/Misc.9); Panama (TD/B/WG.4/Misc.4); Sultanate of Oman (TD/B/WG.4/Misc.6); and Turkey (TD/B/WG.4/Misc.3). Presentations received after this date will also be circulated, and will be listed in an addendum to this note.

(b) Export capabilities

The UNCTAD secretariat has already circulated a report on this item at the first session of the Working Group entitled "Measures an incentives for enhancing the competitiveness of sectors with export potential in developing countries: evidence and lessons from experience" (UNCTAD/ITP/90 and Corr. 1). This report was in English only. Since the Group's first session was devoted exclusively to devising a work programme, it was decided to remit the substantive consideration of the report to the second session and a

request was made that it be translated in all languages. This has been done. The report provides a synthesis of available country experiences and of the available literature in such areas as trade policy, exchange rate management, and fiscal and financial export incentives.

(c) Market opportunities (environmental measures, structural adjustment policies, RBPs)

The Working Group will have before it a report by the UNCTAD secretariat covering the three aspects mentioned under this agenda sub-item (TD/B/WG.4/6). The first part of the report describes how environmental factors may determine market opportunities for developing countries. In addition, the role of eco-labelling as an instrument for the promotion of environmentally friendly products is analysed. Reference is also made to ongoing work within the secretariat, such as the technical cooperation on "eco-labelling and trade"; and work on the Trade Control Measures Database. The second part focuses on government-assisted structural adjustment, its potential to open up new export opportunities for developing countries and possible improvements in structural adjustment policies. The third part examines the effects of anti-competitive structures or conduct in both developed and developing countries upon developing countries' exports and imports. Suggestions are also made regarding measures to be taken by the international community in this area.

(d) Export promotion and marketing

The Working Group will have before it a note prepared by the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT (ITC) entitled "Export promotion and marketing" (TD/B/WG.4/Misc.11). The note examines those aspects which may help Governments in defining and implementing national trade promotion and export development strategies, in particular the institutional infrastructure for trade promotion, ways and means for meeting marketing challenges, the role of information technology, and the human resource development for trade promotion.

Item 4: Provisional agenda for the third session of the Ad Hoc Working Group

Paragraph 10 of the terms of reference of the Ad Hoc Working Group states: "The frequency of sessions of the Working Group is to be decided by the Board in accordance with the existing procedures concerning the calendar of meetings. The duration of the sessions should be of five days or less". According to the provisional calendar for 1993, the third session of the Working Group is scheduled for 6-10 December 1993. A draft of the provisional agenda for the third session of the Working Group will be submitted for consideration in the light of the decisions of the Working Group with respect to its work programme.

Item 5: Other business

Attention is also drawn to paragraph 4 of the terms of reference which specifies that: "In its work, the Working Group should take due account of the diversity of country situations and experiences". Paragraph 4 also refers to the participation of non-governmental actors. The Working Group is invited to consider the participation of such non-governmental actors in the work of the Group.